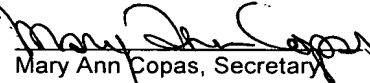




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G.W.
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 10, 2003.


Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

In the Application of Ernst Michael Winter et al

Ser.No.: 09/446,839

Filed: March 24, 2000

CPA Filed: March 10, 2003

For: MULTI-LAYER GEMSTONE

Art Unit: 3677

Examiner: Thomas Y. Ho

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING CPA APPLICATION FILED
MARCH 10, 2003**

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination, please amend the above-identified CPA application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

14. An ornamental stone, comprising:

C1
a body, said body comprising a natural or synthetic stone, said stone being suitable only for technical or industrial purposes, wherein said stone has at least one visible surface adapted to serve as a support for a structured material layer, and wherein at least one theme or image is formed from the structure of the material layer.